

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /084 W

-----290936Z 020115 /10

R 281245Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1266

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZANZIBAR 0099

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, UR

SUBJECT: PODGORNYY'S MARCH 24-25 VISIT TO ZANZIBAR

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1258

1. MARCH 24-25 VISIT USSR PRESIDENT PODGORNYY TO ZANZIBAR WAS UNEVENTFUL. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ABOUD JUMBE HOSTED STATE DINNER; PODGORNYY WAS SHOWN SIGHTS OF ISLAND (AMUSEMENT PARK, SCHOOLS, REVOLUTIONARY PARTY HEADQUARTERS, CLOVE TREES). FOLLOWING SHORT PRESS CONFERENCE AT AIRPORT, PODGORNYY DEPARTED 15 MINUTES AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. ACCORDING TO ZANZIBAR FONMIN OFFICIAL, ZANZIBAR DID NOT OBTAIN ANY DIRECT ASSISTANCE FROM THE USSR, ALTHOUGH AN AID AGREEMENT MAY BE REACHED BETWEEN TANGOV AND THE USSR.

2. PODGORNYY DISCUSSED THE INDIAN OCEAN "ZONE OF PEACE" IN HIS
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REMARKS AT THE STATE DINNER. AS REPORTED IN THE GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER, "THE DAILY NEWS," HE SAID: "(THE SOVIET UNION) ALSO SHARES THE DESIRE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF YOUR COUNTRY TO TRANSFORM THE INDIAN OCEAN INTO A ZONE OF PEACE. IT IS KNOWN THAT THE INDIAN OCEAN IS CROSSED BY THE ROUTES WHICH CONNECT THE EUROPEAN PART OF THE USSR WITH THE SOVIET FAR EAST. WE, AS WELL AS YOU IN TANZANIA, ARE INTERESTED IN THE SPIRIT OF PEACE

AND COOPERATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THEREFORE THE SOVIET UNION IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER ON AN EQUAL BASIS TOGETHER WITH OTHER STATES CONCERNED THE QUESTION OF DECLARING THE INDIAN OCEAN A ZONE OF PEACE. THE KEY QUESTION IS THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE IN THIS REGION; THE ELIMINATION OF IMPERIALIST MILITARY BASES WHICH EXIST IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND WHICH POSE A DIRECT THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, INDEPENDENCE OF COASTAL STATES AND WORLD NAVIGATION. AS TO THE SOVIET UNION IT HAS NO MILITARY BASES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND HAS NO INTENTION TO ESTABLISH THEM." ALTHOUGH "THE DAILY NEWS" HEADLINED THIS PORTION OF THE SPEECH ("BASES IN INDIAN OCEAN; MOSCOW BACKS CALL FOR ZONE OF PEACE"), IT EVOKED NO RPT NO RESPONSE FROM THE ZANZIBARIS PRESENT AT THE STATE DINNER NOR HAD JUMBE MENTIONED THE ISSUE IN HIS SPEECH.

3. COMMENT. ZANZIBAR DOES NOT APPEAR TO SHARE THE MAINLAND'S VIEWS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN "ZONE OF PEACE." IN FACT, LAST JULY A ZANZIBAR FONMIN OFFICIAL INQUIRED INFORMALLY RE HE POSSIBILITY OF A U.S. SHIP VISIT TO THE ISLAND. ZANZIBAR NEVER PERSUED THE MATTER.
SHIPPY

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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